

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-12, and 14-18 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 4, 7, 8 and 14 are amended in several particulars for purposes of clarity in accordance with current Office policy, to assist the examiner and to expedite compact prosecution of this application. Claims 6 and 13 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of its subject matter. The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of allowance concerning claims 15-18 and the allowability of claims 1-3, 5-14.

Summary of the Interview

Examiner T. Tran and S. Sahota (Reg. No. 47,051) had a personal office interview on July 25, 2006. Megied (US 6,556,253) and Jameson (US 6,396,487) were discussed concerning claims 1, 4, 6, 8 and 13.

The Examiner suggested amending claim 6 into claim 1 and claim 13 into claim 8.

The Examiner also stated that further deliberation would be made concerning claim 4.

As suggested by the Examiner, claim 1 has been amended to include the dependent claim 6 and claim 8 has been amended to include the dependent claim 13. Further, claim 4 was placed in independent form as the issue of claim 4 was stated at the interview. Claims 7 and 14 were only amended regarding dependency because claims 6 and 13 were cancelled.

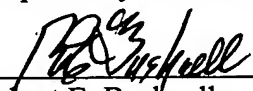
Entry of the foregoing amendments to claims 1, 4, 7, 8 and 14 is proper under 37 C.F.R. 1.116(b) because those amendments simply respond to the issues raised in the personal interview, suggestions made by the Examiner at the interview, and issues raised in the final office action of paper no. 20060224, no new issues are raised as the amended claims have already been considered, no further search is required, and the foregoing amendments are believed to remove the basis of the outstanding rejections and to place all claims in condition for allowance. The foregoing amendments, and explanations, could not have been made earlier because they are merely responsive to issues newly raised in Paper No. 20060224.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all claims are deemed to be allowable and this application is believed to be in condition to be passed to issue. If there are any questions, the examiner is asked to contact the applicant's attorney.

A fee of \$650.00 is incurred by this Amendment for the addition of one (1) independent claim above three (3), and by filing a petition for two (2) month extension of time. Applicant's check drawn to the order of the Commissioner accompanies this Amendment. Should there be a deficiency in payment, or should other fees be incurred, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit.

Account No. 02-4943 of Applicant's undersigned attorney in the amount of such fees.

Respectfully submitted,


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